

Lost Wedding Ring

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Angler reunited with lost wedding ring three years after it sank to bottom of lake



Relief: Andy May with his detectorist pal Don Corden

Andy May recruited metal detectorist pal Don Corden to help him find the gold band after the fishing lake was drained for maintenance.

An angler made the catch of the day when he was reunited with his missing wedding ring - almost three years after it sank to the bottom of a lake.

The gold band had slipped off Andy May's finger and into the water while he was landing a fish in 2013.

Andy, 36, confessed the mishap to his wife Louise, 37, and the pair believed the ring was gone for good.

"I had no idea where it was, or even if it actually was in the water. I'd only noticed it was missing when I was washing my hands at home after the competition" he said.

"I raced straight back and searched until it got dark".



Cleaned up: The ring is as good as new

"It felt awful to have to tell Louise I'd lost the ring and I never replaced it because I think I would always have known it was a replacement, and not the one she put on my finger."

But he was given a glimmer of hope when the lake was drained for maintenance last month.

The management called him and asked if he wanted to search the muddy bottom.

Read more: [Man who attached magnet to fishing rod didn't expect to find THIS](#)

He joined forces with metal detectorist pal Don Corden and they headed down to Cudmore Fisheries in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs.

“I went without a ring for two years until the fisheries rang me and said they were draining the lake, asking whether I wanted to take the chance to search” he said.



On a mission: Don uses his equipment to search the bed of the drained fishing lake

“I had been fishing in an area of around 40 square metres so I knew the chances of finding it were remote. But a tiny hope was better than no hope at all so I contacted Don and we went down to the lake”.

The metal detector was beeping every few seconds as it came across pieces of wire, tin cans and all kinds of other debris.

“After a while I gave up all hope and went to sit in the cafe, feeling as though we’d totally wasted our time”.

It was only a few minutes later that Don came in grinning and handed over the ring.

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Andy said nothing to Louise, simply slipping the band back onto his wedding finger.

It was only while they were bathing their kids Oliver, six and Leah, three, at home in Middlewich, Cheshire, that he broke the news.

Andy said: “I just lifted my hand to my face and showed her the ring. She asked 'have you been out and bought one?' I shook my head and told her how we’d found it”.

“She was absolutely thrilled, it was really emotional and there were a few tears, it was a really lovely moment.”

Detectorist Don, 76, said: “It was a great pleasure to help Andy, it was obvious how much the ring meant to him and his wife.”